

Preventive Services Guidelines

Childhood Immunizations and Screenings

Birth – 2 Years Old



Aetna adopts clinical preventive services recommendations from federal agencies and medical professional organizations. These include the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/prevenix.htm>, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/screening> for preventive screenings, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/ACIP/default.htm> for immunizations. In the absence of a definitive recommendation from these sources, we recognize recommendations from other nationally recognized sources, such as the American Cancer Society (ACS).

This document summarizes general immunization and screening guidelines for children from birth to age two years. These preventive services guidelines are recommended for healthy children for the prevention and early detection of certain conditions and diseases. Patients with high-risk conditions are encouraged to talk with their health care provider about the guidelines to determine what is appropriate for their individual needs. You'll find full content of the guidelines through the website links provided.

Full content of the immunization guidelines can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/recs/child-schedule.htm>. Full content of screening guidelines can be found at <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/prevenix.htm>.

IMMUNIZATION/SCREENINGS (BIRTH TO 2 YEARS)

ADMINISTRATION

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Acellular Pertussis (DTaP)

4 Doses — at age 2, 4, and 6 months
and 1 dose between 15 – 18 months

Haemophilus Influenza Type b (may be combined with DTaP)

3 – 4 Doses — at age 2, 4, and 6 months*
and 1 dose between 12 – 15 months

Polio (IPV)

3 Doses — at age 2 and 4 months and
1 dose between 6 – 18 months

Hepatitis A

2 Doses — 1 dose between 12 – 23
months; and 1 dose at least 6 months later

Hepatitis B

3 – 4 Doses — 1 dose at birth, 1 dose 1–2
months later, 1 dose at 4 months* and 1
dose between 24 week – 18 months

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)

1 Dose — between 12 – 15 months

Pneumococcal Conjugate

4 Doses — at age 2, 4, and 6 months
and 1 dose between 12 – 15 months

Varicella-Zoster (Chicken Pox)

1 Dose — between 12 – 18 months
(or any child after the first year without
a history of chicken pox or previous
immunization)

Influenza

Annually — between 6 – 23 months**

Newborn Screening (PKU, sickle cell Hemoglobinopathies, hypothyroidism)

Once — newborns

Head Circumference

Periodically — between birth – 2 months

Height and Weight

Periodically — between birth – 2 years old

*Dependent on immunization type.

**Household/close contacts and out-of-home caregivers of children aged 0 – 23 months should also be immunized.

These guidelines are provided for informational purposes only and are not intended to direct coverage or benefits determinations, nor are they intended to direct treatment decisions.

Last updated May 2006.

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